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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

United Republic of Tanzania*: draft resolution

Cultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development; 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission to submit its final report to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work; and 51/179 of 16 December 1996, concerning the report of the World Commission,

Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world, as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations, has become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process, in particular as highlighted by Our Creative Diversity,[1] the report of the World Commission,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1996.

Recognizing that this awareness of the central importance of culture is, nevertheless, still insufficiently present in development policy and practice,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of regional or interregional scope, aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade, and in the work of the World Commission and its follow-up,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1994-1997;[2]

2. Invites all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations:

(a) To ensure that the lessons and experiences gained and the momentum generated through the World Decade as well as the World Commission on Culture and Development are reflected in all their development strategies;

(b) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable human development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

3. Stresses the importance of the question of interaction between culture and development, as a priority theme in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the fact that it should be reflected in the structure and activities of the Organization;

4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

5. Takes note of the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries,[3] held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997, and welcomes the convening of the "Culture Meeting for the Coming Millennium" which will be held in 1999;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to stimulate, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, further international debate on culture and development;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the next United Nations Development Decade, to include guidelines to promote culturally sensitive development.

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[2] A/52/382.

[3] See A/52/432.